GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2907
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2001
OPERATION FLOOD PROJECT
S. SAIDUZZAMAN

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether under Operation Flood projects liquid milk marketing capacity of 100.2 lakh litres per day has been set up;

(b) if so, the present per cent utilisation of this capacity, plant-wise in different States;

(c) whether processing capacity in rural dairies was 100.9 lakh litres per day and for metro dairies this was 30.0 lakh litres per day;

(d) if so, the corresponding utilisation, State-wise;

(e) whether any corrective steps are proposed to any lopsided faulty planning at NDDB/Ministry and whether decentralization will be considered especially since Agriculture is a State subject, but hijacked by the Central Government organizations without any advantage to the States;

(f) Government in August, 2000 a single authority to administer all food laws was to be set up; and

(g) if so, the present position in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) to (d): The information is being collected.

(e): Dairy Development is a state subject. The seasonal variation in capacity utilisation of the Dairy plants cannot be attributed to any lopsided planning process. Operation Flood Programme immensely helped the Statesin augmenting their efforts for the development of Dairy Sector resulting in the formation of 72700 Anand Pattern dairy cooperative societies benefiting 9.32 million farmers in different States in the country.

(f) & (g): Department of Food Processing Industries (DFPI) organized four Regional Seminars at Calcutta, Mumbai, Bangaloreand Lucknow to elicit regional inputs towards formulation of National Food Processing Policy.In these seminars, there was a consensus that apart from formulation of a National Food Policy an appropriate development oriented legislation be conceived as the present enactments are impending the growth of the sector. Accordingly an approach paper towards formulation of a processed food development act has been prepared and circulated to various Central Govt. Departments, State Govt., Industrial Associations, Research & Development organization and experts. Taking in to consideration the input received from the cross sections, a draft bill has been drawn up. The draft bill envisages harmonization and simplification of existing laws, Development orientation in defining standards through Processed Food Development Act.